Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of providing signaling in a communication link between a sending node and a receiving node, the method comprising: ~~characterized in that~~

providing a current transmission which includes ~~the signaling contains~~ a predetermined bit pattern that indicates whether control information in the current transmission can be used alone for decoding a transport channel, or whether at least a portion ~~some part~~ of the control information from an earlier transmission must also be used to decode the transport channel.

2.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein a transport format combination indicator (TFCI) in the current transmission contains the control information in the current transmission.

3.   (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein a transport format combination indicator (TFCI) in the current transmission contains the predetermined bit pattern.

4.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~communication link~~ current transmission is provided ~~is based on~~ using a hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) protocol.

5.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~some part of the information is from~~ current transmission comprises a retransmission of the earlier transmission ~~of the same block~~.

6.   (Cancelled)

7.   (Cancelled)

8.   (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the sending node is user equipment and the receiving node is a node B in an uplink.

9.   (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the sending node is a Node B and the receiving node is user equipment in a downlink.

10.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined bit pattern consists of ~~only~~ one bit.

11.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined bit pattern ~~consists of more than one bit in a predetermined pattern, including~~ comprises a bit pattern of "00" or <u>a bit pattern of</u> "11".

12.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3, wherein the TFCI <u>includes</u> ~~contains~~ one bit ~~in the form of~~ <u>comprising</u> a TFCI flag indicating how to decode data blocks in a current data frame.

13.   (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein a separate dedicated control channel contains the predetermined bit pattern.

14.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein if the one bit is a logical "1", ~~then~~ the receiving node uses a transport format combination indicator (TFCI) in the current transmission for decoding, ~~i.e. the~~ <u>wherein a</u> number of information bits for ~~this~~ <u>a</u> transport format <u>of the current transmission</u> equals ~~the~~ <u>a</u> number <u>of information bits for a</u> transport format ~~that is~~ defined <u>in the earlier transmission</u> ~~also originally when the TFCI was defined~~.

15.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 10, wherein if the one bit is a logical "0," ~~then~~ using ~~only the~~ <u>a</u> number of channel bits from a transport format combination indicator (TFCI) in the current transmission for <u>the</u> decoding, ~~such that the receiving node assumes the same~~ <u>and using a</u> number of information bits <u>from</u> ~~for this transport format as in~~ the earlier transmission <u>for the decoding</u>~~, thus using partly current control information and partly earlier control information~~.

16.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein the ~~data~~ current transmission is discarded if there is no earlier transmission.

17.   (Cancelled)

18.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein an acknowledgement (ACK) is sent ~~depending on the outcome of~~ if the decoding is successful.

19.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein a no-acknowledgement (NAK) is ~~either~~ sent ~~or not sent depending on the outcome of~~ if the decoding is unsuccessful.

20.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, further comprising ~~wherein the method includes the steps of~~:
    reading the TFCI flag; and
    if the TFCI flag is equal to a logical "1", using ~~all~~ rate matching (RM) parameters from the TFCI ~~and~~ for decoding data in the transport channel.

21.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 20, ~~wherein the method includes the step of~~ further comprising sending an acknowledgement (ACK) if the decoding is successful.

22.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 20, ~~wherein the method includes the steps of~~ further comprising sending a no-acknowledgement (NAK) if the decoding is not successful and storing the rate matching (RM) parameters.

23.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 12, further comprising: ~~wherein the method includes the steps of~~
    if the TFCI flag is equal to a logical "0", using ~~only the~~ a number of channel bits from the current transmission for the decoding;
    if the earlier transmission is available, ~~getting the~~ using a number of information bits from the earlier transmission for the decoding; and
    if the earlier transmission is not available, ~~then~~ discarding the current transmission ~~data since the RM parameters are not available~~ and sending a non-acknowledgement.

24.　(Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~the method further comprises implementing the step of the method~~ the current transmission is provided via a computer program running in a processing means in an uplink/downlink dedicated channel transmission module of either the sending node or the receiving node.

25.　(Currently Amended) A computer program product with a program code, ~~which~~ wherein the program code is stored on a machine readable carrier, and further wherein the program code is configured to: ~~for carrying out steps for~~

~~providing~~ provide ~~signaling~~ a current transmission in a communication link between a sending node and a receiving node, wherein the current transmission ~~signaling containing~~ includes a predetermined bit pattern that indicates whether control information in the current transmission can be used alone for decoding, or whether ~~some part of the~~ at least a portion of control information from an earlier transmission must also be used for the decoding, ~~when~~

wherein the computer program product is run in a processing means which forms part of an uplink/downlink dedicated channel transmission module of either the sending node or the receiving node.

26.　(Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the sending node and the receiving node form part of a wireless network.

27.　(Currently Amended) A receiving node for receiving signaling in a communication link with a sending node, comprising: ~~characterized in that~~

a receiving module configured to receive a current transmission, wherein the current transmission includes ~~the signaling contains~~ a predetermined bit pattern that indicates whether control information in the current transmission can be used alone for decoding, or whether ~~some part of the~~ at least a portion of control information from an earlier transmission must also be used for the decoding.

28.　(Currently Amended) A receiving node according to claim 27, wherein a transport format combination indicator (TFCI) in the current transmission contains the control information in the current transmission.

29. (Original) A receiving node method according to claim 27, wherein a transport format combination indicator (TFCI) in the current transmission contains the predetermined bit pattern.

30. (Original) A receiving node according to claim 27, wherein the communication link is based on using a hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) protocol.

31. (Currently Amended) A receiving node according to claim 27, wherein the current transmission comprises a retransmission of ~~some part of the control information is from~~ the earlier transmission ~~of the same block~~.

32. (Original) A receiving node according to claim 27, wherein the signaling is used for decoding a transport channel being sent in the communications link.

33. (Original) A receiving node according to claim 27, wherein the communication link is an uplink or a downlink.

34. (Original) A receiving node according to claim 27, wherein the sending node is user equipment and the receiving node is a node B in an uplink.

35. (Original) A receiving node according to claim 27, wherein the sending node is a Node B and the receiving node is user equipment in a downlink.

36. (Original) A receiving node according to claim 27, wherein the predetermined bit pattern consists of only one bit.

37. (Currently Amended) A receiving node according to claim 27, wherein the predetermined bit pattern comprises ~~consists of more than one bit in a predetermined pattern, including~~ a bit pattern of "00" or "11".

38. (Currently Amended) A sending node for providing signaling in a communication link with a receiving node, comprising: ~~characterized in that~~
a transmission module configured to send a current transmission, wherein the current transmission includes ~~the signaling contains~~ a predetermined bit pattern that indicates whether control information in the current transmission can be used alone for decoding, or

whether ~~some part of the~~ <u>at least a portion of</u> control information from an earlier transmission must also be used.

39. (Currently Amended) A sending node according to claim 38, wherein a transport format combination indicator (TFCI) in the current transmission contains the control information <u>in the current transmission</u>.

40. (Original) A sending node method according to claim 38, wherein a transport format combination indicator (TFCI) in the current transmission contains the predetermined bit pattern.

41. (Original) A sending node according to claim 38, wherein the communication link is based on using a hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) protocol.

42. (Currently Amended) A sending node according to claim 38, wherein the <u>current transmission comprises a retransmission of</u> ~~some part of the control information is from~~ the earlier transmission ~~of the same block~~.

43. (Original) A sending node according to claim 38, wherein the signaling is used for decoding a transport channel being sent in the communications link.

44. (Original) A sending node according to claim 38, wherein the communication link is an uplink or a downlink.

45. (Original) A sending node according to claim 38, wherein the sending node is user equipment and the receiving node is a node B in an uplink.

46. (Original) A sending node according to claim 38, wherein the sending node is a Node B and the receiving node is user equipment in a downlink.

47. (Original) A sending node according to claim 38, wherein the predetermined bit pattern consists of only one bit.

48. (Currently Amended) A sending node according to claim 38, wherein the predetermined bit pattern <u>comprises</u> ~~consists of more than one bit in a predetermined pattern, including~~ a bit pattern of "00" or "11".

49.   (Currently Amended) A system ~~having a sending node~~ for providing signaling in a communication link ~~with a receiving node~~, the system comprising: ~~characterized in that~~

a sending node comprising a transmission module configured to transmit a current transmission; and

a receiving node comprising a receiving module configured to receive the current transmission from the sending node, wherein

the current transmission includes ~~signaling contains~~ a predetermined bit pattern that indicates whether control information in the current transmission can be used alone for decoding, or whether ~~some part of the~~ at least a portion of control information from an earlier transmission must also be used for the decoding.

50.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 49, wherein a transport format combination indicator (TFCI) in the current transmission contains the control information in the current transmission.

51.   (Original) A system method according to claim 49, wherein a transport format combination indicator (TFCI) in the current transmission contains the predetermined bit pattern.

52.   (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the communication link is based on using a hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) protocol.

53.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 49, wherein the current transmission comprises a retransmission of ~~some part of the control information is from~~ the earlier transmission ~~of the same block~~.

54.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 49, wherein the decoding comprises ~~signaling is used for~~ decoding a transport channel ~~being sent in the communications link~~.

55.   (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the communication link is an uplink or a downlink.

56.   (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the sending node is user equipment and the receiving node is a node B in an uplink.

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57.   (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the sending node is a Node B and the receiving node is user equipment in a downlink.

58.   (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the predetermined bit pattern consists of only one bit.

59.   (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 49, wherein the predetermined bit pattern consists of more than one bit in a predetermined pattern, including comprises a bit pattern of "00" or "11".

60.   (Original) A system according to claim 49, wherein the system is a communication system.